

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 236829 TOSEC 270693

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 3916 ACTION SECSTATE SEP 23.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3916

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, PLO
SUBJ: PLO REQUEST TO SPEAK IN GENERAL DEBATE

REF: USUN 3882

1. SEVERAL RECENT REPORTS INDICATE QUESTION OF PLO SPEAKING IN GENERAL DEBATE COULD SOON ARISE IN PLENARY. BRITISH MISSION CONVEYED TO US REPORT THAT SYRIAN DELEGATION HAS INDICATED THAT IT WAS PREPARED TO RAISE THE MATTER. (THIS COULD OCCUR AS EARLY AS SEPT 24 MORNING PLENARY SESSION WHEN REPORT OF GENERAL COMMITTEE IS ACTED ON.) A LOCAL CORRESPONDENT PASSED ON THAT PLO REP TERZI HAS APPOINTMENT THIS AFTERNOON TO SEE GA PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE. EARLIER TODAY AMERASINGHE IN INFORMAL MEETING WITH CORRESPONDENTS DUCKED QUESTION ON PLO SPEAKING IN GENERAL DEBATE BY REMARKING THAT PLO HAS NOT ASKED HIM FOR INCLUSION ON SPEAKERS LIST.

2. MEANWHILE SAUDI PERMREP BAROODY APPROACHED AMB. BENNETT TO SAY THAT WE CAN EXPECT "TROUBLE OVER THE PLO." BAROODY DID NOT ELABORATE. ARAB GROUP HAS SCHEDULED MEETING
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SEPT 24 IN AFTERNOON WHERE THIS QUESTION WILL ARISE PRESUMABLY.

3. ISRAELI MISSION HAS INFORMED US THAT IF MOTION IS MADE FROM FLOOR ISRAELI DELEGATION WILL OBJECT AND MAKE STRONG PROTEST. IT NOT CLEAR HOW GA PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE WOULD HANDLE SUCH A MOVE. (DEPT. WILL RECALL REPORTS OF AMERASINGHE'S INTENT TO RULE AGAINST PLO SPEAKING IN GENERAL DEBATE.) SHOULD AMERASINGHE, HOWEVER, CALL FOR APPROVAL OF MOTION BY CONSENSUS THEN ISRAELI DELEGATION WOULD REQUEST VOTE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: MISSION REQUESTS CONFORMATION OF US POSITION THAT WE WOULD VOTE AGAINST PLO SPEAKING IN GENERAL DEBATE AND MAKE STATEMENT EXPLAINING OUR POSITION IN CLEAREST POSSIBLE TERMS BEFORE THE VOTE. BENNETT UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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